

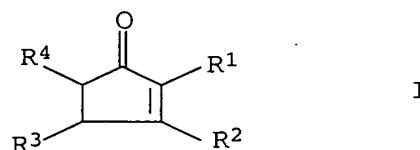
## Improved preparation of cyclopentenones

## Abstract

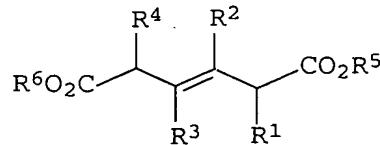
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The present invention provides a process for preparing 2-cyclopentenones of the general formula:

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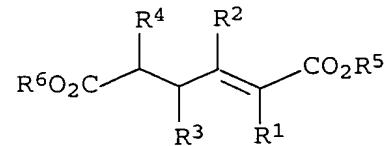
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II

or



III

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where R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup> are each as defined above and R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are each hydrogen atoms or are alkyl radicals having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl radicals having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, aralkyl or aryl radicals, at temperatures of from 150 to 450°C, over solid, oxidic catalysts, wherein the catalysts on an oxidic support material comprise from 0.01 to 5% by weight of at least one alkali metal oxide.

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